Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the first three paragraphs of page 11 (lines 1 – 16) with the following:

At (1$\underline{A}$), the BSC 22 forms an A_{bis}-BTS Setup message for base station transceiver (BTS) setup, and sends it to the RBS 20. On receipt of this message, the RBS 20 selects channel elements for the physical channels indicated in the message. These physical channels can be F/R-FCH, F-SCH and/or R-SCH. Alternatively, for a single FCH or SCH setup, the procedure would be identical. It also indicates to the BSC 22 that backhaul path connections need to be established for the channels to be set up.

At (2$\underline{A}$), backhaul path connections are set up for the F/R-FCH between the channel element and the BSC 22. Backhaul path connections are also set up for the F-SCH and/or R-SCH.

At (3$\underline{A}$), which is after completion of the backhaul path setup, the RBS 20 sends an A_{bis}-BTS Setup Ack message to the BSC 22 acknowledging the A_{bis}-BTS Setup message, and indicating the successful set up. After the requested links have been set up, the timer $T_{FCHSetup}$ is disabled.

Please replace the sixth paragraph of page 11 (lines 24 - 25) with the following:

Steps (1$\underline{B}$-6$\underline{B}$) occur in parallel for as many RBSs 20 as the Resource Release Request message has listed.

Please replace the first six paragraphs of page 12 (lines 1 – 12) with the following:

At (1$\underline{B}$) the BSC 22 forms an A_{bis}-Burst Release message, and sends it to a first RBS 20. On receipt of this message, the RBS 20 releases the channel element in use and resources associated with it.

At (2B), the backhaul path connection for the F-SCH between the channel element and the first BSC 22 is released.

At (3B), after tearing down the backhaul path connection and releasing the channel element, the first RBS 20 sends an A_{bis}-Burst Release Ack message to the BSC 22 acknowledging the A_{bis}-Burst Release message, and indicating the successful release.

At (4B), the same procedures are carried out as in (1B), but for the nth RBS 20.

At (5B), the same procedures are carried out as in (2B), but for the nth RBS 20.

At (6B), the same procedures are carried out as in (3B), but for the nth RBS 20.

Please replace the eighth, ninth, and tenth paragraphs of page 12 (lines 15 - 24) with the following:

Fig. 5 illustrates flow logic for releasing the R-SCH. At (1C), the BSC 22 attempts to release radio resources on one or more RBSs 20, and times these operations using a timer $T_{RSCHRelease}$. Steps (1C-3C) occur in parallel for as many RBSs 20 as the Resource Release Request message has listed.

At (1C), the BSC 22 forms an A_{bis}-Burst Release message, and sends it to one or more RBSs 20. On receipt of this message, the first RBS 20 releases the channel element in use and resources associated with it. It also indicates to the BSC 22 that the backhaul path connection needs to be released.

At (2C), the backhaul path connection for the R-SCH between the channel element and the BSC 22 is released.

Please replace the first four paragraphs of page 13 (lines 1 – 7) with the following:

At (3C), after tearing down the backhaul path connection and releasing the channel element, the first RBS 20 sends an A_{bis}-Burst Release Ack message to the BSC 22 acknowledging the A_{bis}-Burst Release message, and indicating the successful release.

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At (4$\underline{C}$), the same procedures are carried out at the nth RBS 20 as detailed in (2$\underline{C}$).

At (5$\underline{C}$), the same procedures are carried out at the nth RBS 20 as detailed in (3$\underline{C}$).

At (6$\underline{C}$), the same procedures are carried out at the nth RBS 20 as detailed in (4$\underline{C}$).